

PRO

PROJECTURE. *n. f.* [*projecture*, Fr. *projectura*, Lat.] A jutting out.
TO PROIN. *v. a.* [a corruption of *prune*.] To lop; to cut; to trim; to prune.
I fit and proin my wings
After flight, and put new flings
To my shafts. *Benj. Johnson.*
The country husbandman will not give the pruning knife to a young plant, as not able to admit the scar. *B. Johnson.*
TO PROLATE. *v. a.* [*prolatum*, Lat.] To pronounce; to utter.
The presures of war have somewhat cowed their spirits, as may be gathered from the accent of their words, which they prolate in a whining querulous tone, as if still complaining and crest-fallen. *Howel.*
PROLATE. *adj.* [*prolatus*, Lat.] Oblate; flat.
As to the prolate spheroidal figure, though it be the necessary result of the earth's rotation about its own axis, yet it is also very convenient for us. *Cheyne's Phil. Prin.*
PROLATION. *n. f.* [*prolatio*, Lat.]
 1. Pronunciation; utterance.
Parrots, having been used to be fed at the prolation of certain words, may afterwards pronounce the same. *Ray.*
 2. Delay; act of deferring.
PROLEGOMENA. *n. f.* [*προλεγόμενα*; *prolegomena*, Fr.] Previous discourse; introductory observations.
PROLEPSIS. *n. f.* [*προληψις*; *prolepsis*, Fr.] A form of rhetoric, in which objections are anticipated.
This was contained in my prolepsis or prevention of his answer. *Bramhall against Hobbs.*
PROLEPTICAL. *adj.* [*proleptis*, Fr.] Previous; antecedent.
The proleptical notions of religion cannot be so well defended by the professed servants of the altar. *Glanvill.*
PROLEPTICALLY. *adv.* [*proleptice*, Fr.] By way of anticipation.
PROLETARIAN. *adj.* Mean; wretched; vile; vulgar.
Like speculators should foretell,
From pharos of authority,
Potent mischief farther than *Hudibras, p. i.*
Low proletarian tything-men.
PROLIFICATION. *n. f.* [*proles* and *facio*, Lat.] Generation of children.
Their fruits, proceeding from simpler roots, are not so distinguishable as the offspring of sensible creatures, and proliferations descending from double origins. *Brown.*
PROLIFICK. *adj.* [*prolifique*, Fr. *proles* and *facio*.] Fruitful.
PROLIFICAL. *adj.* ful; generative; pregnant; productive.
Main ocean flow'd; not idle, but with warm
Profligate humour soft'ning all her globe,
Fermented the great mother to conceive,
Satiate with genial moisture. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
Every dispute in religion grew prolifical, and in ventilating one question, many new ones were started. *Decay of Piety.*
His vital pow'r air, earth and seas supplies,
And breeds what'er is bred beneath the skies;
For every kind, by thy prolifick might, *Dryden.*
Springs.
All dogs are of one species, they mingling together in generation, and the breed of such mixtures being prolifick. *Ray.*
From the middle of the world,
The sun's prolifick rays are hurl'd;
'Tis from that seat he darts those beams,
Which quicken earth with genial flames. *Prior.*
PROLIFICALY. *adv.* [*prolifice*, Fr.] Fruitfully; pregnantly.
PROLIX. *adj.* [*prolixus*, Fr. *prolixus*, Latin.]
 1. Long; tedious; not concise.
According to the caution we have been so prolix in giving, if we aim at right understanding the true nature of it, we must examine what apprehension mankind make of it. *Digby.*
Should I at large repeat
The head-roll of her vicious tricks, *Prior.*
My poem would be too prolix.
 2. Of long duration. This is a very rare sense.
If the appellant appoints a term too prolix, the judge may then assign a competent term. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
PROLIXIOUS. *adj.* [*prolixus*, Fr.] Dilatory; tedious. A word of *Shakespeare's* coining.
Lay by all nicety and prolixious blushes. *Shakespeare.*
PROLIXITY. *n. f.* [*prolixitas*, Fr. from *prolixus*.] Tediousness; tire some length; want of brevity.
It is true, without any slips of prolixity, or crossing the plain highway of talk, that the good Antonio hath lost a ship. *Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice.*
In some other passages, I may have, to shun prolixity, unawares slipped into the contrary extreme. *Boyle.*
PROLIXLY. *adv.* [*prolixus*, Fr.] At great length; tediously.
On these prolixly thankful the enlarg'd *Dryden.*
PROLIXNESS. *n. f.* [*prolixitas*, Fr.] Tediousness.
PROLOCUTOR. *n. f.* [*prolocutor*, Latin.] The foreman; the speaker of a convocation.
The convocation the queen prorogued, though at the expense of Dr. Atterbury's displeasure, who was design'd their prolocutor. *Swift.*

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PROLOCUTORSHIP. *n. f.* [*from prolocutor*.] The office or dignity of prolocutor.
PROLOGUE. *n. f.* [*prologus*, Fr. *prologus*, Latin.]
 1. Preface; introduction to any discourse or performance.
Come, fit, and a song
— Shall we clap into 't roundly, without hawking, or spitting, or saying we are hoarse, which are the only prologues to a bad voice? *Shakespeare, As You Like it.*
In her face excuse
Came prologue, and apology too prompt. *Milton.*
 2. Something spoken before the entrance of the actors of a play.
If my death might make this island happy,
And prove the period of their tyranny,
I would expend it with all willingness;
But mine is made the prologue to their play. *Shakespeare.*
The peaking cornuto comes in the infant, after we had spoke the prologue of our comedy. *Shakespeare.*
TO PROLOGUE. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To introduce with a formal preface.
He his special nothing ever prologues. *Shakespeare.*
TO PROLONG. *v. a.* [*prolonger*, Fr. *pro* and *longus*, Lat.]
 1. To lengthen out; to continue; to draw out.
Henceforth I fly not death, nor would prolong
Life much. *Milton.*
Th' unhappy queen with talk prolong'd the night. *Dryden.*
 2. To put off to a distant time.
To-morrow in my judgment is too sudden;
For I myself am not so well provided,
As else I would be were the day prolong'd. *Shakespeare.*
PROLONGATION. *n. f.* [*prolongation*, Fr. from *prolong*.]
 1. The act of lengthening.
Nourishment in living creatures is for the prolongation of life. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
 2. Delay to a longer time.
This ambassage concerned only the prolongation of days for payment of monies. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
PROLUSION. *n. f.* [*prolusio*, Lat.] Entertainments; performance of diversion.
It is memorable, which Famianus Strada, in the first book of his academical prolusions, relates of Suarez. *Harewell.*
PROMINENT. *adj.* [*prominentus*, Latin] Standing out beyond the near parts; protuberant; extant.
Whales are described with two prominent spouts on their heads, whereas they have but one in the forehead terminating over the windpipe. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
She has her eyes so prominent, and placed so that she can see better behind her than before her. *Mor.*
Two goodly bowls of maffly silver,
With figures prominent and richly wrought. *Dryden.*
Some have their eyes stand so prominent as the hare, that they can see as well behind as before them. *Ray.*
PROMINENCE. *n. f.* [*prominentia*, Latin] from *prominent*.
PROMINENCY. *n. f.* Protuberance; extant part.
It shows the nose and eyebrows, with the prominencies and fallings in of the features. *Addison on Ancient Medals.*
PROMISCUOUS. *adj.* [*promiscuus*, Latin] Mingled; confused; undistinguished.
Glory he requires, and glory he receives,
Promiscuous from all nations. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
Promiscuous love by marriage was restrain'd. *Roscom.*
In rush'd at once a rude promiscuous crowd;
The guards, and then each other overbear,
And in a moment throng the theatre. *Dryden.*
No man, that considers the promiscuous dispensations of God's providence in this world, can think it unreasonable to conclude, that after this life good men shall be rewarded, and sinners punished. *Tillotson's Sermons.*
The earth was formed out of that promiscuous mass of sand, earth, shells, subsiding from the water. *Woodward.*
Clubs, diamonds, hearts, in wild disorder seen,
With throngs promiscuous throw the level green. *Pope.*
A wild, where weeds and flow'rs promiscuous shoot. *Pope.*
PROMISCUOUSLY. *adv.* [*from promiscuus*.] With confused mixture; indiscriminately.
We beheld where once stood Ilium, called Troy promiscuously of Tros. *Sandy's Journey.*
That generation, as the sacred writer modestly expresses it, married and gave in marriage without discretion or decency, but promiscuously, and with no better a guide than the impulses of a brutal appetite. *Woodward.*
Here might you see
Barons and peasants on the embattled field, *Philips.*
In one huge heap, promiscuously amass'd.
Unaw'd by precepts human or divine, *Pope.*
Like birds and beasts promiscuously they join.
PROMISE. *n. f.* [*promissum*, Lat. *promissio*, *promissio*, Fr.]
 1. Declaration of some benefit to be conferred.
Let the air, promiscramm'd; you cannot feed capons so. *Shakespeare.*
His promises were, as he then was, mighty;
But his performance, as he now is, nothing. *Shakespeare.*
O Lord, let thy promise unto David be established. *1 Chron.*
Behold, she said, perform'd in ev'ry part. *Dryden.*
My promise made; and Vulcan's labour'd art. *Let*

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Let any man consider, how many sorrows he would have escaped, had God called him to his rest, and then say, whether the promise to deliver the just from the evils to come, ought not to be made our daily prayer. *Wake.*
 2. Performance of promise; grant of the thing promised.
Now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee. *Atterbury.*
 3. Hopes; expectation.
Your young prince Mamillius is a gentleman of the greatest promise. *Shakespeare, Winter's Tale.*
TO PROMISE. *v. a.* [*promittere*, Fr. *promitto*, Lat.]
 1. To make declaration of some benefit to be conferred.
While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption. *2 Peter ii. 18.*
I could not expect such an effect as I found, which seldom reaches to the degree that is promised by the preachers of any remedies. *Temple's Miscel.*
TO PROMISE. *v. n.*
 1. To assume one by a promise.
Promising is the very air of 'th' time; it opens the eyes of expectation: performance is ever the duller for his act. *Shakespeare.*
I dare promise for this play, that in the roughness of the numbers, which was so designed, you will see somewhat more masterly than any of my former tragedies. *Dryden.*
As he promised in the law, he will shortly have mercy, and gather us together. *2 Mac. ii. 18.*
All the pleasure we can take, when we met these promising sparks, is in the disappointment. *Fulton.*
She brib'd my flay, with more than human charms;
Nay promis'd, vainly promis'd to bestow
Immortal life. *Pope's Odyssey.*
 2. It is used of assurance, even of ill.
Will not the ladies be afraid of the lion?
I fear it, I promise you. *Shakespeare.*
PROMISEBREAKER. *n. f.* [*each and promise*.] Violator of promise. Not in use.
Criminal in double violation
Of sacred chastity, and of promise each. *Shakespeare.*
PROMISEBREAKER. *n. f.* [*promise and break*.] Violator of promises.
He's an hourly promisebreaker, the owner of no one good quality worthy your entertainment. *Shakespeare.*
PROMISER. *n. f.* [*from promise*.] One who promises.
Who let this promiser in? did you, good Diligence?
Give him his bribe again. *Benj. Johnson.*
Fear's a large promiser; who subject live
To that base passion, know not what they give. *Dryden.*
PROMISSORY. *adj.* [*promissorius*, Latin] Containing profession of some benefit to be conferred.
As the preceptive part enjoins the most exact virtue, so is it most advantageously enforced by the promissory, which is most exquisitely adapted to the same end. *Decay of Piety.*
The promissory lies of great men are known by shoudering, hugging, squeezing, smiling and bowing. *Aylbuck.*
PROMISSORILY. *adv.* [*from promissory*.] By way of promise.
Nor was he obliged by oath to a strict observation of that which promissorially was unlawful. *Brown.*
PROMONT. *n. f.* [*promontus*, Fr. *promontorium*, Latin].
PROMONTORY. *n. f.* Promont I have observed only in *Suckling*.
A headland; a cape; high land jutting into the sea. *Abbot.*
The land did shoot out with a great promontory.
I have dogs *Shakespeare.*
Will climb the highest promontory top.
Like one that stands upon a promontory, *Shakespeare.*
And spies a far off shore where he would tread.
A forked mountain, or blue promontory,
Has bal' With trees upon't, nod unto the world,
And mock our eyes with air. *Shakespeare, Ant. and Cleop.*
The waving sea can with each flood
Bath some high promont. *Suckling.*
They, on their heads,
Main promontories flung, which in the air
Came shadowing, and oppress'd whole legions arm'd. *Milton.*
Every gust of rugged winds,
That blows from off each beaked promontory. *Milton.*
If you drink tea upon a promontory that overhangs the sea,
It is preferable to an assembly. *Pope.*
TO PROMOTE. *v. a.* [*promovere*, *prometus*, Lat.]
 1. To forward; to advance.
Next to religion, let your care be to promote justice. *Bacon.*
Nothing lovelier can be found,
Than good works in her husband to promote. *Milton.*
He that talks deceitfully for truth, must hurt it more by his example, than he promotes it by his arguments. *Atterbury.*
Frictions of the extreme parts promote the flux of the juices in the joints. *Aylbuck.*
 2. [*Promoveo*, Fr.] To elevate; to exalt; to prefer.
I will promote thee unto very great honour. *Nam. xxii. 17.*
Shall I leave my fates, wherewith thy honour God and man, and go to be promoted over the trees. *Judges ix. 9.*
Did I solicit thee
From darkness to promote me. *Milton.*
PROMOTER. *n. f.* [*promoteur*, Fr. from *promote*.]
 1. Advancer; forwarder; encourager.

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Knowledge hath received little improvement from the endeavours of many pretending promoters. *Glanvill.*
Our Saviour makes this return, fit to be engraven in the hearts of all promoters of charity; verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. *Atterbury.*
 2. Informer; makebate. An obsolete use.
His cics be promoters, some trespas to spie. *Tusser.*
Informers and promoters oppress and ruin the estates of many of his best subjects. *Drummond.*
PROMOTION. *n. f.* [*promoti*, Fr. from *promote*.] Advancement; encouragement; exaltation to some new honour or rank; preferment.
Many fair promotions
Are daily given to enoble those,
That scarce, some two days since, were worth a noble. *Shakespeare.*
The high promotion of his grace of Canterbury,
Who holds his state at door 'mongst puritans. *Shakespeare.*
My rising is thy fall,
And my promotion will be thy destruction. *Milton.*
Thou youngest virgin-daughter of the skies,
Made in the last promotion of the blest;
Whose palms, new pluck'd from paradise, *Dryden.*
In spreading branches more sublimely rise.
TO PROMOVE. *v. a.* [*promoveo*, Lat. *promoveo*, Fr.] To forward; to advance; to promote. A word little used.
Never yet was honest man,
That ever drove the trade of love:
It is impossible, nor can
Integrity our ends promote. *Suckling.*
PROMPT. *adj.* [*prompt*, Fr. *promptus*, Lat.]
 1. Quick; ready; acute; easy.
The reception of light into the body of the building was very prompt, both from without and from within. *Watson.*
Very discerning and prompt in giving orders, as occasions required. *Clarendon.*
Prompt eloquence
Flow'd from their lips, in prose or numerous verse. *Milton.*
To the stern sanction of th' offended sky,
My prompt obedience bows. *Pope.*
 2. Quick; petulant.
I was too hasty to condemn unheard;
And you, perhaps, too prompt in your replies. *Dryden.*
 3. Ready without hesitation; wanting no new motive.
Tell him, I'm prompt
To lay my crown at's feet, and there to kneel. *Shakespeare.*
The brazen age,
A warlike offspring, prompt to bloody rage. *Dryden.*
Still arole some rebel slave,
Prompter to sink the state, than he to save. *Prior.*
 4. Ready; told down: as, prompt payment.
TO PROMPT. *v. a.* [*promptare*, Italian.]
 1. To assist by private instruction; to help at a loss.
Sitting in some place, where no man shall prompt him, let the child translate his lesson. *Aylbuck.*
You've put me now to such a part, which never
I shall discharge to th' life.
— Come, come, we'll prompt you. *Shakespeare, Coriolanus.*
My voice shall sound as you do prompt mine ear,
And I will stoop and humble my intents
To your well practis'd wife directions. *Shakespeare.*
None could hold the book so well to prompt and instruct this stage play, as the could. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
He needed not one to prompt him, because he could say the prayers by heart. *Stillingfleet.*
Every one some time or other dreams he is reading books, in which case the invention prompts so readily, that the mind is imposed on. *Addison.*
Grace shines around her with serene beams,
And whisp'ring angels prompt her golden dreams. *Pope.*
 2. To incite; to instigate.
The Volcians stand
Ready, when time shall prompt them, to make road
Upon's again. *Shakespeare, Coriolanus.*
Speak not by th' matter
Which your heart prompts you to, but with such words
But rooted in your tongue. *Shakespeare.*
If they prompt us to anger, their design makes use of it to a further end, that the mind, being thus disquieted, may not be easily composed to prayer. *Dutton.*
Rage prompted them at length and found them arms. *Milton.*
Kind occasion prompts their warm desires. *Pope.*
 3. To remind.
The inconceivable imperfections of ourselves will hourly prompt us our corruption, and loudly tell us we are sons of earth. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
PROMPTER. *n. f.* [*from prompt*.]
 1. One who helps a public speaker, by suggesting the word to him when he falters.
Were it my cue to fight, I should have known it
Without a prompter. *Shakespeare, Othello.*
In florid impotence he speaks,
And as the prompter breathes, the puppet squeaks. *Pope.*
 2. An